

## **Town of Arlington**

### **Transportation Advisory Committee**

Minutes of 7/8/09, 7:15 pm to 10:00 pm, Town Hall Annex, Second Floor Conf. Room.

Minutes submitted by Laura Wiener.

**Members and Associates Present:** Elisabeth Carr-Jones, John Lentz, Jeff Maxtutis, Howard Muise, Mike Rademacher, Corey Rateau, Ed Starr, Laura Wiener

**Visitors Present:** none

1. Administration.

Minutes of 5/13/09 and 6/10/09 were approved unanimously with minor amendments.

Correspondence and other handouts were reviewed.

2. Germaine Lawrence. Jeff and John presented recommendations for traffic and parking in the vicinity of the Germaine Lawrence School. Recommendations were modified slightly, and then adopted unanimously. Modified recommendations will go to Selectmen.

3. Westminster. Recommendations for the Westminster curve are being finalized with John Bean. Elisabeth recommends that the sidewalk construction be done during the summer because it is heavily used by student pedestrians.

4. Yerxa/Hemlock. A stop sign has been requested on Yerxa. Ed has researched it and finds the request reasonable, but need to determine the right location. One possible placement of the sign is on a utility pole with the stop line slightly further out. Vegetation on corner should be cut back. **Vote to recommend stop sign is unanimous.**

5. Winchester/Hutchinson. This intersection has a wide geometry and limited visibility. Ed suggested 2 stop signs, one on Winchester at Morningside, and one on Old Mystic. A stop sign was also requested for Windmill and Morningside. Further discussion will occur next month.

6. Crosswalk at Cusack Towers on Summer. Corey and others felt that this is not a good location to add a crosswalk. Summer St. is a high volume road with a curve close to this location, and it is too close to the existing signalized intersection and the crosswalk at Victoria/Summer, which provides a pedestrian crossing. **Vote to recommend against adding a crosswalk in front of Cusack Towers, voted unanimously.**

7. Park Ave. and Paul Revere Road. Corey provided crash numbers, but wanted more time to analyze the causes. Further discussion next month.

8. Spy Pond Park/Pond Lane. A request came via the Selectmen about pedestrian safety. The tunnel under the bike path is roughly 15' wide. In future, could add a fog line, or a 4' sidewalk in the tunnel. For now, Howard recommends warning signage. Corey will check crash data. Howard will prepare a written recommendation for next month.

9. Winslow Terrace. Regarding proposed changes to parking area, Corey reported that the Fire Department uses Russell Terrace and Russell Street and does not object to changes.

10. Cedar St./Fountain Road. Both streets are private ways. This is an irregular intersection that could be squared off, but work would have to be paid for by abutters, not Town. DPW Engineering could offer guidance only. Jeff will follow up.

11. Schools.

a. Dallin. Yellow curbing got painted. School zone signs installed. One complaint received about "No Parking" sign.

b. Brackett. Next step is to set up a meeting.

12. Update: Mass. Corridor. At most recent Review Committee meeting, a vote was called on submitting the plan to Mass. Highway, which carried 12-4. Expected to go to Selectmen either July 13 or August 10. Corey reported that he looked at data for Bates Road and found no increase in speed since 2002, and a decrease in volume. Discussion

- of the TIP is just beginning at the Boston MPO. Right now the Mass. Ave. project is in the staff recommendation to be moved to the 2011 TIP, at the Town's request. There has been some discussion at the MPO about possibly removing Crosby's Corner (Route 2, Lincoln) which would make funds available for other projects.
13. SRTS at Dallin. Federal funds programmed by Mass. Highway, which will hold a hearing in the fall. Construction should start next spring. Program has funds for land takings, which might be useable to pay for strip of land on George Street needed to build a sidewalk. Town Meeting has already approved this taking.
  14. Downing Square Report and Design. Elisabeth has completed a draft of the report. Recommendations should go to Selectmen in September or October. Want to get started on the survey before winter.
  15. Parking Study. As part of commercial development study, Town has done a parking study for East Arlington. Recommendations include metering, to encourage turnover of Mass. Ave. spaces. Expected to come before Selectmen in fall.
  16. Stratton Pathway between drop off in circle and playground. Principal Alan Brown requested a paved pathway along the side of the school connecting the new drop off location on Mountain with the playground, to provide an area for students to line up. Mike will look at it.
  17. Town Reports. Mike reported that Forest Street reconstruction may get put off until next year if stimulus finding is available. This could free up funds for other projects, such as reconstruction of Park Ave. Laura reported that new Planning Director, Carol Kowalski, will start on July 27. A Comprehensive Permit project (40B) is proposed for 17 Winter Street, across the street from Crosby School. Eight rental units are proposed on an 11,700 sq. foot vacant wooded lot. Expected to go before the ZBA in early fall.
  18. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.

#### Handouts:

Ed's Meeting Package: 1) Agenda, 7/8/09; 2) Memo to Chief Ryan from Lieut. Lake Re. Placement of Stop Sign at Intersection of Windmill Lane and Morningside Drive, dated June 3, 2009; Letter from Jodi Manis on same; 3) Memo to Ed Starr from Board of Selectmen approving Phase 1b Pedestrian Safety Improvements at Peirce School, dated June 12, 2009; 4) "Truck Exclusions, Town of Arlington", dated June 15, 2009; 5) Active/Planned TAC Projects and Working Groups, dated 7/8/09; 6) Project Status, dated 7/8/09; Status of Outstanding Actions, 7/8/09; 7) TAC Report—Status of Winter Street and Oxford Street Approved Improvements, May 29, 2009; 8) Draft Actions from 6/10 TAC Meeting; 9) Intersection of Yerxa and Hemlock; 10), Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, Chapter 5B Regulatory Signs; 11) Photos of Yerxa Road, 2 pages; 12) Mapquest Picture of Hutchinson and Winchester Roads, Memo from Jean Clark to Edward Starr Re. Hutchinson/Winchester/Morningside Intersection controls, dated June 18, 2009, plus 4 pages of pictures; 13) Mapquest Mystic and Summer Street intersection; 14) Mapquest Paul Revere Rd. and Park Ave. intersection; 15) "A few comments" on Pond Lane; 16) Mapquest view of Cedar St. and Fountain Rd.; 17) Email from Jeffrey Maxtutis to Mike Rademacher Re. Stratton Sidewalk Request, dated June 12, 2009; "Mountain Ave. Sidewalks".

Minutes of 5/13/09 and 6/10/09

"Pond Lane at Spy Pond Park"

Email from Ed Starr to Andrew West, Kevin O'Brien and Laura Wiener Re. Informal Meeting with Wood Partners re. Brigham's site, dated 7/2/09.